

THE HAWAIIAN GAZETTE

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Suffering On Submarines

IN view of the fact that perhaps nine-tenths of the members of congress have made up their minds that wholesale submarine construction is the solution of the problem of national defense and in view of the further fact that there is going to be a regular submarine brainstorm on the boards in Washington when congress reconvenes, it becomes interesting, says the Tacoma Ledger, to know that the navy department has run clock up against a mighty big obstacle in the development of the submarine program and that is in reference to safeguarding the health of the men who will constitute the personnel of the underwater boats.

Naval surgeons have had their attention attracted to the problem and a thorough inquiry has been instituted, designed to establish the causes of the unfortunate conditions and the remedies that may be brought to apply. Thus far, it must be admitted, the inquiry has been busier with the causes than with the remedies. It has demonstrated the fact that the most common ailments of which the men are subject are tonsillitis, rheumatism and gasoline poisoning. Despite the hardships to which the men are subjected and the temptation occasionally to escape them, malingering practically is unknown among them.

When the boat is submerged the interior, especially in northern waters, frequently becomes bitter cold. The steel sides of the ship conduct the heat radiated from the bodies of the men to the surrounding waters. It is impossible to dress warmly enough to overcome the effects of this radiation. The only heat in the boats is from the electric stoves and from the energy given off as heat from the engines and motors, and frequently it is impossible to spare enough power to run the electric heaters. In some of the boats, as in those of the "D" and "E" classes, there is no cork sheathing, the sides are often covered with condensation and the humidity is raised to a high point, creating a damp cold, which cuts to the bone. When the clothes of the men become damp or wet there is no method of drying them. All this tends to lower the body's resistance and, coupled with the effects of relatively impure air, is particularly conducive to the propagation of pulmonary disease.

When the boats are under way the men seek the deck for fresh air, but there is no deck shelter and they are constantly exposed to wind and water. The treatment aboard submarines of the sick is regarded by the investigating surgeons as out of the question. They must be removed to hospitals as once, as the facilities for caring for them on the ship are deplorably inadequate. The report on the subject is not ready, but the inquiry is considered a highly important one and will furnish a clear insight into the dangers and discomforts which the designers of the new American U-boats are expected to obviate.

The Age Of Miracles

HUMAN speech heard around a fourth of the world's circumference, from Arlington to Pearl Harbor, is a miracle of accomplishment whose true significance is difficult to grasp. With no knowledge of the men who have done this, or the instruments they have perfected and the forces they have summoned, it can yet be humbly assumed that a new epoch has been reached in which Life and Society will admit as realities the marvels we have been taught to look forward to by the men of vision.

The consummation of wireless telephony by the text of last night could not have been felt in Arlington, speaking words into the dark, as it was felt in Honolulu, where they were so wonderfully heard.

Honolulu has been subtly connected with every great advance of aerial communication. The Advertiser published the first message by wireless between San Francisco and Hawaii and it published the world's first news service sent completely by that medium, first by night and then a day service. Just as this morning it publishes the first spoken words with Arlington, so it has first published the first wireless message direct from Arlington here, a feat then unsurpassed.

Later as the web of aerial communicants was spread about the world it published the first formal messages between Hawaii and Japan. As outpost after outpost called in through the night to Honolulu to report themselves to civilization, The Advertiser has recorded each accomplished fact.

But surpassing them all in its significance, in its imagery, and above all, in its promise, the human voice that came from Arlington to Pearl Harbor last night is a strange climax that binds Honolulu more closely than ever to the scientific progress leading us to social conditions we do not yet clearly foresee.

Whenever something interferes with the plans of the German war chiefs the edge is taken off the news by private advices of trouble in some British colony. If it is not a widespread mutiny in India or a wave of sedition in Saskatchewan, it is a rebellion in Ceylon or trouble in Ireland.

What's this kick about a man on the garbage payrolls for five months doing no work? We know men who have been on the public payrolls for years who have done little besides draw their little old stipends. Five months looks like nothing but a fair start for some amateur.

Mayor Mitchell's Views

IN connection with the proposed business men's camp to be established here this year by the war department the following statement given out by Mayor John Purroy Mitchell, of New York City, upon his return from the military instruction camp at Plattsburg, New York, on September 7, pointing out the need of "full and adequate measures of national preparedness," will be of especial interest to the business men of Honolulu who contemplate attending the camp.

The Plattsburg encampment, says Mayor Mitchell, has taught 13,000 of the representative men of the nation the value of relying on volunteer armies in case of need. We know, in a way that arguments can never bring home, that a soldier, much less an officer, cannot be made in a few weeks of training, and that it would be a crime against our people, amounting to nothing less than national suicide, to send into the field armies manned and officered by untrained volunteers.

These are the lessons taught by Plattsburg, lessons which this nation must learn and take to heart if it would preserve its free institutions and maintain its position with dignity and independence among the nations of the world. The Plattsburg camp must be followed by others of its kind, pending the adoption by the National Government of full and adequate measures of national preparedness.

The Plattsburg encampment was a thorough success, and the spirit brought to the work by the members of the provisional regiment was an inspiration. The discipline was strict, the work hard and the results achieved remarkable, considering the brief period of training.

No one claims that any of us, by virtue of those four weeks of instruction alone, is now competent to command troops. On the contrary, we appreciate now how little competent we are. We have received, however, a groundwork which can easily be built upon to make of these thirteen hundred men material fit to supplement with officers the nation's meagre quota of trained regulars and trained militia.

The opinion of Mayor Mitchell as above expressed is in itself worthy of a man holding the high position in public life that he does, and it is to be hoped that those who attend the proposed camp in Honolulu will enter into the work with the same spirit as those attending the Plattsburg camp, in order that they may fit themselves for the work that even now may be looming up on the horizon of our national life.

Ruinous Obstnacy

REPORTS regarding the administration's program towards sugar agree on one point, that the necessity of raising revenue makes the imposition of a tax on sugar imperative. But the reports differ radically as to the nature of the tax to be imposed, and, unfortunately for Hawaii, the greatest credence appears to be due the idea that it is an internal revenue tax and not an import duty which the administration has in mind. Apparently, President Wilson and his advisers believe that it is more necessary that they "save their face" than do justice to the home sugar industry.

The placing of an internal revenue tax upon sugar will meet the demand for revenue, but it will effectually wipe out the greater part of the beet and cane sugar production of the nation. It will increase the cost of sugar to the amount of the tax, but will leave the way open for unlimited competition between foreign sugar and that domestic grown.

It is stated that authoritative information has reached Hawaii that this is to be the plan for submission before congress. If the report be as true as it seems, it means free sugar on and after May 1 next and a period of "watchful waiting" for Hawaii until Republican commonsense resumes control of national affairs.

The Hoog's Case

A WEEK ago, in this column, the "no bill" return of the grand jury in the Hoogs' case was termed a farcical one and the apparent failure of the jury to render justice to the community was ascribed to a faulty presentation of the matter on the part of City Attorney Brown. Yesterday the members of the grand jury sent a letter to The Advertiser in which they state:

In justice to City Attorney Brown we desire to correct the impression which has gone broadcast through your editorial and to say that the decision arrived at by the jury was in no way due to an unsatisfactory manner in which the city attorney presented the case, but on the other hand we consider that the case was presented by the city attorney in a most capable and thorough manner and equally as well as possible could have been presented by any person, and the "No Bill" against Mr. Hoogs was returned after full discussion and consideration of the facts and circumstances connected with the Hoogs case.

This clears Mr. Brown of neglect. The next point is in regard to the grand jury itself. Inasmuch as Mr. Brown presented the case properly and the facts are plain, what becomes of the oath the jurymen have taken? Why did not the jury insist upon the attendance of all the essential witnesses? Of course, if the members of the grand jury can square their performance with their oath, they may rest content, and the public can think as it pleases.

Serving the Nation

THE nation will ponder the names of the twenty-two men chosen as members of the Naval Advisory Board long and thoughtfully. Suggested by Secretary of the Navy Daniels and headed by Thomas A. Edison, this board stands for a part of the answer to the charge of unpreparedness leveled and sustained against this nation. It comprises the pick of eleven of the great engineering and scientific societies of the United States. There is no man on the board who should not be there and who will not add weight and power to its deliberations, says the St. Louis Republic. There are Americans who have shown their genius and their greatness in certain inventive and industrial fields whose aid would have been valuable, but their names are not on the list of membership, as it was necessary to have an organization of a size not too unwieldy.

Every member of the board as now constituted has certain notable inventions and researches to his credit. Howard E. Coffin is one of the best known authorities on automobile design in America; Hudson Maxim is one of the greatest of our military inventors; Peter Cooper Hewitt is internationally famous in the lighting and hydro-aviation fields, and the remainder of the membership may be taken as representing a notable "mobilization of the talent and genius of this great country," to use the language of the president of the board, Thomas A. Edison.

This advisory board will do for this country what similar organizations have done for the Continental Powers in the matter of passing upon and perfecting the inventions having to do with naval preparedness. It should be borne in mind that these men are giving their time and their genius to the American people. Their work represents the highest type of patriotism, as it is being carried on without remuneration in order that a great and a free people may remain great and free.

But it must not be taken for granted that the deliberations of these men, however profound may be their wisdom and however earnest their desire to serve, is going to "save the nation" or render any the less necessary the united efforts of less exalted patriot towards a reasonable preparedness, to start now.

John F. Bass, a war correspondent of prominence and a thinker who is able to apply the lessons he has learned along the flaming lines of Europe to home conditions. In an article on "The Price of Unpreparedness," Mr. Bass writes:

"Those people in this country who do not wish to face the problem of the preservation of our institutions and liberties resort to two arguments. One is that the superior inventiveness of the American people will come to the rescue and by some miraculous invention destroy the armies of the enemy. The chances of such an invention being produced during the war are infinitesimally small. For years inventors have been trying in this and other countries to devise instruments of warfare to crush opposing armies. All they have succeeded in doing is to prolong warfare for unlimited periods and they have involuntarily rendered an efficiently defensive position almost impregnable.

"The second argument is that the American people in some mysterious way would rise up and crush the invader. This theory if it were not wicked would be at least ridiculous. The day of the minute man, who took his rifle and powder horn from the wall and with a handful of bullets repelled the British forces, is past. How did our untrained citizens defend Washington against British capture in the war of 1812? They gave way to a force less than one-half their size and that with eight killed and a very few wounded.

"Under the rules of modern warfare untrained civilians who take up arms to defend their homes if caught are lined up and shot; such popular actions also lead to reprisals. We have before us the horrors resulting from a few such incidents among the civilian population of Belgium. In the United States an attempt to arm the civilian population would result in the wholesale slaughter of thousands of innocent people and would not stop for a single instant the victorious advance of a thoroughly drilled and prepared army.

"The peace loving citizens of the United States cannot for a moment conceive the horrors and sufferings of war as it is waged under modern methods.

"From the East Prussian coast of the Baltic to the Carpathians I have seen the great kaleidoscope of misery, suffering and death. Watch these lines of Germans, their bayonets glistening in the sun, advancing rank upon rank against the entrenched position of the Russians. See the Russian machine guns mow them down. The last line drops gasping upon the wire entanglements that bar their immediate passage to the enemy's trench. The charge has failed, but it is only a signal for the new and terrible activity of the German artillery. Showers of shells are hurled against the enemy's trenches; they blow huge holes in the earthworks and hurl the mangled defenders high into the air. Some of the shells explode among the dead and wounded German soldiers in front of the trenches and blow severed arms and legs into the faces of the soldiers in the hidden line of defense.

"In the rear of the line whole villages of women and children, driven from their home, shelterless and without food, wander hopelessly through the night, they know not whither. Starvation stalks through the land. In that part of Poland captured by the Germans the victors have requisitioned all food and left the population to starve.

"How may we avoid a repetition in our own

country of the terrible scenes now enacted in Europe?

"Why not turn for advice to the words of our first President, George Washington, a great soldier and also a great statesman? In his fifth annual address to congress he says: 'If we desire to avoid insult we must be prepared to repel it. If we desire to secure peace, one of the most powerful arguments in our favor is our being prepared to fight. It must be known that we are at all times ready for war.'

Official Cooperation

WHATEVER one may think of the "Murray charter" or the present administration, of the waterworks, at least one must appreciate the fact that Harry Murray is resurrecting several degrees of commonsense in a number of directions. His latest move is to request the cooperation of the board of health in the matter of guarding against water wastage, asking that the various sanitary inspectors report to the waterworks office the cases of defective, leaking plumbing they may find in their inspection tours.

In almost any other city than Honolulu such a request would be entirely superfluous, because such reports would be made as a matter of course. But, in this City Beautiful it has never yet occurred to any official to deviate a fraction of an inch from his own, particular line of duty. The health inspectors should cooperate with all other branches of the public service, waterworks, police, building inspectors, garbage department, street lighting department and others, and they, each in turn should cooperate with the health department and with each other.

In almost every other city, when a building starts the policeman on the beat takes the trouble to look at the building permit, or, if the street is being cut into, the policeman asks for the authority the first time he drops around. He sees that builders do not encroach on the sidewalk limits without excuse. He reports defective street lights. He keeps an eye on quarantined houses to see that the quarantine is observed. He reports leaky garden taps and, if he is a night patrolman, he makes a note of running water in any of the houses along his beat, as he can hear the water running in the stillness. Such policemen work along the rules of commonsense, appreciating the fact that whatever they can do to serve the public they should do.

Health inspectors invariably communicate with the police when they detect gambling houses, bawdy houses, opium joints, apparent thieves' quarters and any other discoveries which might assist the peace officers in their work of prevention of crime. They also keep in close touch with the building inspectors and the garbage men and the road department.

And so on through the list. In Honolulu, whatever is the health department's business is no business of the police and the average officer would snort at the idea of troubling himself over reporting a mosquito-breeding pool. He would think it a joke if asked about the building permits of the new structures on his beat.

The garbage men would consider themselves disgraced if asked to tip off the police regarding some of the things they see during their early morning rounds.

That is why Honolulu has not enough men in any one branch of the public service to cover the ground, because they get no assistance from the men of any other branch. Harry Murray's commonsense suggestion and request for a measure of cooperation may open the way for a great deal more, therefore, because it may occur to some of the officials that perhaps cooperations will be a good thing all around.

Let us hope that the seed Murray has dropped will grow and produce a harvest.

Governor Pinkham believes that there are too many holidays in the territorial public schools. He might have gone farther and declared that there are altogether too many holidays in the Territory and too many leaves of absence for territorial and municipal officials. We notice, for instance, that the Hawaiian band is about to start on its regular annual month's lay-off. Just why the musicians should be given one-twelfth of the year to rest under salary is hard for the ordinary man to see. Of course musicians are highly-strung, sensitive folks, but it never struck us that the band boys were either evidencing nervousness or showing signs of overwork. In the matter of holidays, Hawaii ought to decide whether it is going to hold to the old ante-annexation schedule of Hawaiian dates, or the existing American holidays. Observing both sets is giving the business community too much of a good thing.

Mr. Bryan may be a peace-at-any-price man, but he did not go so far as to turn the other cheek to that be-whiskered Kansas farmer who kissed him.

When last heard from Doctor Cook was within 2000 feet of the top of Mount Everest. But don't be too optimistic. He will probably come down safe.—Kansas City Journal.

Side-splitting riddle from the Atchison Globe: "If Jack Johnson, Harry Thaw and Billy Sunday should be placed in a glass and shaken up, what would you have? A chocolate nut Sundae, of course. Yaw, yaw, yaw!"

An Atchison man, in case this nation ever gets in a war with Germany, will enlist in the German army, as there are two or three Bull Moosers that he wants to puncture. That is carrying political feeling entirely too far.—Atchison Globe.

RESENT ATTACK ON LIEUTENANT EDE

Flotilla Commander Writes Denial
Of Theory Advanced By Former Lieutenant Howell

The officers of the local submarine flotilla resent the imputation placed against the skill of the late Commander Ede of the F-4 by former Lieut. J. B. Howell, in an address made by the latter in San Francisco, a report of which was published in this paper yesterday. In regard to the suggestion that the loss of the F-4 was due to Lieutenant Ede's inability to handle his craft, Lieutenant Crittenden has written as follows to the editor of the San Francisco Examiner, in which paper the original report of Lieutenant Howell's remarks was made. "The local commander writes:

"Honolulu, T. H., Sept. 30, 1915.
"Managing Editor, San Francisco Examiner, San Francisco, California.
"Sir:—The division commander and the officers of the submarines station in Honolulu were shocked and hurt by the insinuation when reading the total-victim measure which resulted in the attack on that high efficient and splendid officer, the late Lieut. Alfred L. Ede, U. S. navy, by former Lieut. J. B. Howell.

"The statement by Mr. Howell that there was no other reason for the sinking of the F-4 in Honolulu than absolute inexperience on the part of the commander, is an absolute and unwarranted falsehood. Lieutenant Ede was attached to this division for well over one year before he was given command of the F-4 until he had thoroughly demonstrated his ability to handle the boat under all conditions, both on the surface and submerged. Lieutenant Ede had been in command of the F-4 for nearly nine months before the accident occurred which resulted in the loss of the boat.

"I was not in command of the division at the time but I was informed by Lieut. C. E. Smith, U. S. navy, when I relieved that officer in command of this division in June of this year, that Lieut. Ede was one of the best submarine officers that he had ever known, and this opinion is shared by every officer and by every enlisted man who was associated with the late and greatly lamented officer during the time that he was connected with this division.

"Lieutenant Ede was a man of the highest character and principle, a splendid, capable, efficient officer, a gentleman and a fine man in every respect. He had the respect of all officers and men in this division, and the feeling of respect and admiration for him was so great that it was almost impossible to speak of him without a feeling of respect and admiration.

"The statement by Mr. Howell infers that Lieutenant Ede was making his first dive. This is absolutely untrue. Having been in command of the boat for nine months Lieutenant Ede must have made easily 150 dives and had taken his boat through two target practices submerged, and through the various exercises submerged, required in the course of his work.

"The board of investigation, of which I am a member, appointed by the navy department to determine the cause of the accident has not yet completed its work. Therefore, I consider it extremely bad taste for anyone, even a person who has had such wonderful experiences in submarines as former Lieutenant Howell, to publicly discuss at the present time the probable cause of the accident.

"I most earnestly request that you give this letter the same prominence that you gave former Lieutenant Howell's speech in order that the widow and family of the late lamented Lieutenant Ede and his personal friends, who may have seen this brutal, vicious and unwarranted attack upon him, may know that an attempt has been made to refute this attack and to let the world at large know what a splendid, gallant officer and gentleman Lieutenant Ede was, and what a loss the service suffered in his death.

"Whatever the cause of the accident may have been it was in no way Lieutenant Ede's fault, and we know that he did everything in his power to prevent it and to recover and to save his command after the accident occurred.

"Very sincerely,
"K. B. CRITTENDEN.
"Lieutenant, U. S. Navy, Division Commander."

FEAR FOR SAFETY OF MRS. HIGGINS

Friends of Mrs. James A. Higgins, wife of Lieutenant Higgins of the Twenty-fifth Infantry, Schofield Barracks, are greatly concerned for her safety and that of her young daughter, both of whom at last reports were at Pass Christian, Mississippi, directly in the path of the hurricane which is devastating the Gulf Coast.

Mrs. Higgins arrived at her home in New Orleans four weeks ago and expected to leave for Pass Christian to spend the autumn there. Pass Christian is about twenty miles south of Biloxi, Mississippi, where, according to reports, is six feet under water.

Lieutenant Higgins endeavored to get in communication with New Orleans relatives yesterday by wireless, but late last night had had no response. If the hurricane gave warning of its approach, he thinks residents of Pass Christian fled to safety, but the suddenness with which these storms make their appearance may have prevented this.

Mrs. J. Wesley Thompson, who is visiting her parents and friends in Nashville, Tennessee, will return to Honolulu before Christmas. The Thompsons have decided to make their permanent home in this city.